

Astoria Scandinavian

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL



The Daily Astorian June 21, 1990

Dancers launched festival

By SANDRA SWAIN
For The Daily Astorian

Dancers wearing authentic costumes are a big part of the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. That's the way it's always been, ever since a local Brownie troop, looking for a theme for Girl Scout International Day, borrowed costumes from the Daughters of Norway and started dancing for local audiences. The Brownie project was such a hit that they decided to continue as the Scandinavian Folk Dancers, still in existence today as the Viking and Nordic Dancers.

The 22-member group, which by then also included boys, had been dancing together for three years when they decided to raise funds for a trip to Disneyland. Since midsummer is marked by big celebrations in Norway and other Scandinavian countries, a midsummer festival seemed appropriate. The idea was the brainchild of Astorians Louise "Sus" Fulton and Shirley Tinner, whose daughters, Sara and Kim, were members of the original Brownie troop, and Carol Obie, their Brownie leader and dance director.

THE FIRST FESTIVAL, now a three-day event that attracts a crowd of 15,000, was a one-day affair held at the county fairgrounds on June 15, 1968. The Scandinavian Folk Dancers provided entertainment. Each Scandinavian lodge had a booth and sponsored a princess who dressed in authentic garb and spoke about midsummer customs in the country she represented. That evening Miss Denmark, Marjie Yost, became the first of the 22 queens who have reigned over the popular festival which is now held at Astoria High School.

Admission to that first festival was 50 cents for adults, free for children. Red, white and blue ribbons hand-tied by Fulton and Tinner and Fulton's sister, Jordis Tetli, preceded the buttons that have been used for admission since 1971. (All three women have collected a complete set of ribbons and buttons.)

Fulton and Tinner were responsible for putting on a big dinner and for selling other refreshments at the fairgrounds lunch counter, known as The Coop. They ran the first beer garden in a tent equipped with lanterns and picnic benches brought from home. The pair also colored thousands of programs by hand, collected gate receipts and stayed to clean up afterward!

A resounding success, the first festival attracted more than 3,000 people. Says Fulton, "It was hard work but really fun. We did it all, a handful of mothers and fathers."

Needless to say, the dancers made more than enough money to finance their trip to Disneyland and in later years took trips to Hawaii and Canada and a cruise to Mexico. According to Tinner, the dancers, who were together from second grade through high school, "formed friendships that will never end.



Dancers came up with the idea for the first Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival, and dancing is still an integral part of the festival.

Astoria Scandinavian

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

One of the five women pictured on the cover of the 1990 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival special section will be crowned Miss Scandinavia in a ceremony Friday night at Astoria High School.

Clockwise from upper left, the contestants are Miss Finland Kimberly Utti; Miss Norway Patricia Brugh; Miss Denmark Kristin Jacobsen; Miss Iceland Tiffany Patterson; and Miss Sweden Heidi Saukko.

The cover photograph is by Kent Kerr.

Stories were written by Sandra Swain.

The Daily Astorian's annual tabloid provides a wealth of information for people interested in the festival.

Profiles of the princesses can be found on pages 4, 5 and 6. An history of the festival is on this page; an overview of events is on Page 8.

A complete schedule of entertainment and events, as well as a map of the festival area, can be found on Pages 10 and 11.

They were like brothers and sisters." Two dancers, Linda Lovvold and Ron Dyer, eventually married.

The festival was run by the Scandinavian Folk Dancers and their parents for three years until, according to Fulton, "It got too big. We couldn't handle it." So the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association was formed,

with Ed Niska as its first president. Attendance continued to rise each year until the original location was outgrown. The festival moved to the Armory in 1974 and then in the late '70s to Astoria High School, where it has been held ever since. In 1976 it became a two-day event, and adopted its current format of Friday, Saturday and Sunday format about seven years ago.

Junior court aids in coronation

Dressed in traditional costumes that their grandparents would have donned back in the old country, children of the junior Scandinavian court could easily pass for natives of the countries they represent.

Their costumes are authentic handmade garments, stitched with painstaking care. But the traditionally clad children are not merely ornamental — one of the court's main functions is assisting in the coronation of Miss Scandinavia.

Members of this helpful 1990 junior court are Becca Litwin, Junior Miss Denmark; Katie Lane, Junior Miss Norway; Laurie Kennell, Junior Miss Sweden; Briita Blair, Junior Miss Finland; and Chad Bublitz, crown bearer.

Junior Miss Denmark Becca Litwin is 8 years old and a second-grader at Lewis and Clark School. She is the daughter of David and Lynette Litwin. Becca enjoys art, writing stories, soccer, hiking and camping.

Becca's costume was worn in the western part of Sjælland, which is the main island of Denmark. It is a one-piece dress and in the 1850s it was considered a modern-style costume.

Junior Miss Norway is Katie Lane. A second-grader at Warrenton Grade School, she is the daughter of Bob and Nancy Lane. Katie enjoys ballet and is a member of the Nordic Dancers.

Her great-grandparents immigrated to Astoria in 1929 from the Norwegian district of Trondelag. Katie wears the Hardanger costume from southwestern Norway that was made by her great-grandmother, Louise Fremstad.

Laurie Kennell is Junior Miss Sweden. She is the daughter of Van and Nancy Kennell and is a second-grader at Warrenton Grade School. Laurie enjoys ballet, gymnastics and



Junior court members are, from left, Junior Miss Sweden Laurie Kennell; Junior Miss Norway Katie Lane; crown bearer Chad Bublitz; chaperone Tara Johnson; Junior Miss Finland Briita Blair; and Junior Miss Denmark Becca Litwin.

is a member of the Nordic Dancers.

Laurie's Swedish heritage comes from her mother's side of the family, as both sets of her grandparents are Swedish. She wears the Swedish national costume for young girls.

Briita Blair is Junior Miss Finland. She is the daughter of Randy Blair and Tom and Diana Coryell. Briita is 8 years old and a second-grader at Warrenton Grade School. She enjoys ballet and is a member of the Nordic Dancers.

Briita's great-great-grandmother left Vihti, Finland, for the United States in the 1860s and shortly after her great-great-grandfather left Mohas, Finland. They arrived separately in Knappa, where they later met and married. Briita's costume is the child's version of the Suomusalmi,

which is in northern Finland.

This year's crown bearer is Chad Bublitz. He is 8 years old and attends Pleasantview School. He is the son of Leo and Deena Bublitz.

Chad wears a Norwegian Nordhordland's costume. He enjoys softball, swimming, playing the piano and collecting rocks and seashells.

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Miss Denmark

Kristin Jacobsen

My name is Kristin Jacobsen. I am 16 years old and this fall I will be a senior at Astoria High School. My parents are Gary and Gay Jacobsen and I have three younger brothers, Brian, Eric and Matt.

I can trace my Danish heritage back six generations. My great-grandfather, Jakob Jakobsen, immigrated to the United States in 1890. He made several return trips back to Denmark before dying there in 1963, leaving his family here in the United States.

I'm thankful for the support I've received from the Danish Society and for the opportunity to represent Denmark in this year's festival. I'm also appreciative for the loan of this costume from the society. It is the dancing costume from the island of Lyo worn at the close of the 1890s. The ribbons left to fly in the wind give the hat its name: the flutter cap. The embroidery on the blouse was done by my mother. Special thanks to Ella Simonsen for all her help!

As a senior next year, I will continue my involvement in OSSOM (Oregon Student Safety on the Move), German Club, Port City Singers, National Honor Society and Quill and Scroll. I will also serve as senior class secretary and editor-in-chief of the school newspaper, Astor Post.



Miss Finland

Kimberly Utti

Hello! My name is Kimberly Utti. My parents are Tom Utti and Ginny Mackendrick. I have two older brothers, Mark and Darin Utti. I am 17 years old and recently graduated from Astoria High School. I was the student body secretary, line captain of the dance team, a French Club representative, vice president of the ski club and I was on varsity golf. My hobbies include tennis, golfing, jogging and shopping.

This year I am very happy to be representing Finland. I would like to thank the Ladies of Kaleva and the Finnish Brotherhood for sponsoring me. My costume is from the area of Oulun in northern Finland, next to the Gulf of Bothnia. This is where my great-grandmother, Betty Tilander, was born and raised. She later immigrated to America in 1906. She then married Art Tilander, who had immigrated to Astoria from southern Finland. They then started the Astoria Home Baking Company, which is still run by close relatives.

My costume consists of a white linen blouse and apron, with handmade fancy hem stitching around the collar and the bottom of the apron. It has a blue skirt and vest with orange stitchwork.

This fall I will be attending the University of Oregon. I plan to study business administration.

Miss Iceland

Tiffany Patterson

Hi, my name is Tiffany Patterson and I'm representing Iceland in the 1990 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. I am the daughter of Christine and the late Danny Patterson. I live in Knappa with my mother and two brothers, Kelley and Kyle.

I am an 18-year-old graduate of Knappa High School and during my years at Knappa High I was involved in sports, student council, drama, the quiz bowl, on the yearbook staff, selected to attend Oregon Business Week, a student race secretary for the Great Columbia Crossing, and a member of the National Honor Society.

My family immigrated to America from Iceland in 1881. My great-great-grandmother, Sigridur Hallgrimsson, and her family first lived in North Dakota and from there they moved to Warrenton. Later, Sigridur and her family moved to Canada, but Elizabeth, Sigridur's daughter, stayed in Warrenton to marry Harry McDermott.

My costume is one of three acceptable Icelandic national costumes. It is called an Upphultur and was worn for everyday use in the 18th century. It is made of black wool and velvet and finished with beautiful gold ornaments and lace.

This summer I am working at the Red Lion Seafare and next fall plan to attend Western Oregon State College.



Miss Norway

Patricia Brugh

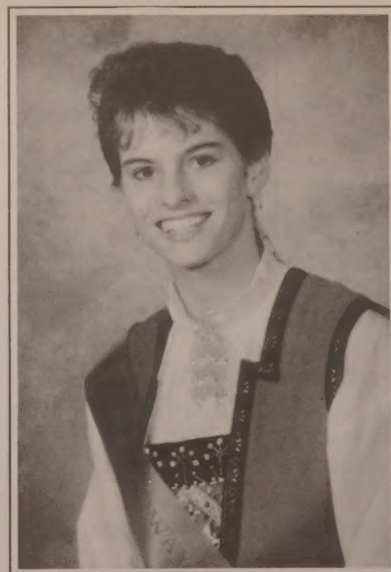
God Dag! Hello, my name is Patricia Brugh and I am a 17-year-old graduate of Astoria High School. My parents are George and Shirley Brugh and I have two sisters, Kris and Julie, and one brother, George. As a senior I was student body vice president, a member of National Honor Society and Quill and Scroll. Throughout high school I was an avid athlete, participating as a member of the cross country, basketball, golf and track teams.

This fall I plan on attending Oregon State University and eventually becoming an elementary teacher and counselor.

My heritage is derived from the maternal side of my family. My great-grandfather, Yergen Trigway Andrews Tandberg, came to America in the late 1800s at the age of 12. He settled in Oregon and that is where he died 23 years later of pneumonia. When he died he left behind my great-grandmother and my grandmother, Ruby Mears, who is still living.

The costume is borrowed from the Sons of Norway Lodge, Nidaros No. 16. It is a hardanger costume. The hardanger costume is the most popular costume in Norway and in America.

I would like to thank the Sons of Norway and the Daughters of Norway for their wonderful support.



Miss Sweden

Heidi Saukko

Hello, my name is Heidi Saukko, and I am an 18-year-old graduating senior of Knappa High School. This year I am representing Sweden in the 1990 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. I would like to take this opportunity to again thank the Astoria Vasa Lodge for giving me this chance to be a part of this year's festival.

My family consists of my parents, LeRoy and Janice Saukko, and my older sister, Brenda. While attending KHS, I have been active in such things as volleyball, basketball, FFA, student government, the Great Columbia Crossing and National Honor Society. Some of my hobbies include biking, walking and animals. Currently, I work at Mr. Fultano's Pizza Parlour in Astoria. Next year I plan on attending Western Oregon State College.

My family comes from the southern part of Sweden in the region of Smaland. The costume I am wearing is considered one of the most famous folk dresses of this region and it is called "the Varend Costume." It is a replica of a dress in a photo and was made by Bunny O'Conner here in Astoria.

Having a chance to be a part of the festival is very exciting.



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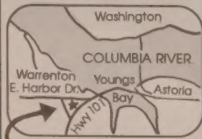
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Just some down-home fun

By SANDRA SWAIN
Of The Daily Astorian

Columbia River bar pilot Martin West started dancing with the Scandia Dancers when he was 6 years old. This year, he is president of the Astoria Scandinavia Midsummer Festival.

Of Scandinavian descent, West danced with the Scandia Dancers until he went away to college. West's grandfather, a Finnish citizen of Swedish extraction, changed the family name from Vestlien when he immigrated to the United States in 1906.

Because midsummer festivals in Scandinavia take place outdoors, West considers Astoria High School with its courtyards, lawns and separate buildings an ideal location for maintaining tradition without sacrificing comfort and convenience.

As part of a "return to local flavor," there will be no "big name" celebrities or imported bands this year. Local and regional groups will once again be featured. According to West, Astoria is "unique in that our festival is put on almost entirely by lodges rather than by people with commercial interests." West is heartened to see people who participated in the festival as children continuing their involvement as adults.

WEST'S GOAL IS to preserve a Scandinavian heritage that is being lost in modern Scandinavia itself, where young people are abandoning traditional customs and clothing. Costumes worn by dancers, princesses and other festival participants are meticulously authentic. Booths are selected for their connection with Scandinavian culture.

West says he is concerned with quality rather than quantity and has no desire to further boost the already high attendance figures of

recent years. Says West, "The quality of what we do may appeal to a limited number of people but it's what our purpose is: preservation of culture."

Perhaps as a result of so much attention to quality, record attendance is expected at Astoria's 1990 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival, to be held at Astoria High School, 1001 W. Marine Dr., Friday, June 22, through Sunday, June 24. The price of an admission button good for all three days of the festival is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children 6 to 16. Children under six are admitted free.

The festival begins Friday at 7:30 p.m. with the coronation of Miss Scandinavia 1990 in the high school auditorium. Princesses from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden all are vying for the honor of reigning over the 23rd annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

LAST YEAR'S QUEEN, Josie Hemeon, who represented Iceland, will pass the crown to her lucky successor, who will then lead a torchlight procession to a bonfire in the parking lot. There, in keeping with Danish tradition, she will toss a hex made of straw into the fire to ensure good luck in the coming year. The Queen's Ball, featuring the Scandinavian music of Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band, begins at 9 p.m.

On Saturday and Sunday visit the many booths set up in the gymnasium and the walkways and courtyards. They open at 10 a.m. and feature authentic Scandinavian food and crafts, everything from toys to crystal to sweaters.

Also offered at the booths are demonstrations of rosemaling,



See Festival, next page

Festival

Continued from Page 8

hobbin-lace making, wood-carving and weaving. As you stroll about be sure to notice the many festivalgoers wearing authentic Scandinavian costumes, lovingly preserved for this yearly event. And don't forget the continuous program of Scandinavian music and dancing that starts at 1 p.m. on both days.

At 11 a.m. on Saturday, people in Norwegian garb are urged to join the Optog, a Norwegian walking parade that starts at the post office at Eighth and Commercial streets and continues through downtown Astoria. At noon, American and Scandinavian flags will be raised at the high school and national anthems will be sung. Immediately afterward, a group of men will raise the tall midsummer pole, festooned with flowers. Then everyone will dance around the pole singing songs to welcome the coming of summer after the long northern winter.

North Coast Readers' Theatre will perform "I Remember Mama," a delightful play about a Norwegian family, on Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the auditorium. On Saturday at 8:15 p.m., Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band will delight you with their lively music, followed at 9 by a public dance. Sunday highlights

include a non-denominational worship service with special music at 11 a.m.

Bringing a hearty appetite to the festival and you won't be disappointed. On Saturday, food service in the cafeteria starts with a breakfast of sour cream omelet, apple sauce and bran muffin served by the Order of Vasa from 7 a.m. to 10:30 at a price of \$4 for adults and \$2.75 for children under 13. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vasa will serve a lunch of Swedish pea soup and rye bread for \$2. Next, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Women of the Moose will provide a dinner of Swedish meatballs or beef stroganoff, carrot-raisin salad, peas, rolls and apple crisp with cream at a cost of \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 13. If snacking is more your style, check out the many booths serving Scandinavian delicacies all day Saturday from 10 to 6.

Sunday's menu starts with brunch served from 8:30 to 11:30 by Astoria Rotary Club. Feast on pannukakku (Finnish pancakes), Danish ham and fresh fruit for \$4 for adults and \$2.75 for children under 13. And of course the food booths are open again from 10 a.m. on.

The festival will end at 4 p.m. with a closing ceremony during which raffle prizes will be awarded. Grand prize is a pair of round trip tickets from Los Angeles to Scandinavia donated by Finnair, or \$1,000.



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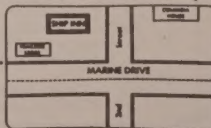
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The fun starts Friday for fans of the festival

This is the schedule of the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival events. All events are at Astoria High School, 1001 W. Marine Drive.

FRIDAY

6 p.m. to midnight — Beer garden in parking lot adjacent to cafeteria with food booths operated by the men and women of the Moose Lodge.

7:30 p.m. — Coronation of Miss Scandinavia, auditorium, followed by a torchlight procession and bonfire and hex burning in parking lot south of auditorium and the Queen's Ball in the cafeteria. Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band. Coffee and soft drinks served by Nordic-Viking Folk Dance Mothers in a booth near the outdoor dance area.

SATURDAY

7 to 10:30 a.m. — Breakfast, sponsored by the Order of Vasa, including sour cream omelette, applesauce, bran muffins, coffee and milk; \$4 adults, \$2.75 children, under 5 no charge.

8:30 a.m. — Decorating of Midsummer Pole with flowers in the center lawn area.

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Food, handcraft and demonstration booths open.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. — Travel films about Scandinavia shown in school band room.

11 a.m. — Optog (walking parade) forms at Astoria Post Office, Eighth and Commercial streets, downtown Astoria. Scandinavian costumes.

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. — Swedish pea soup and rye bread served by the Order of Vasa in the cafeteria for \$2.

Noon to 1 a.m. — Beer garden, parking lot adjacent to cafeteria.

Noon — Flags of Scandinavian nations raised, followed by national anthems, welcome, invocation and introduction of Miss Scandinavia 1990 and court.

12:30 p.m. — Raising of Midsummer Pole and ring dance around pole in celebration of the arrival of midsummer.

1 to 7 p.m. — Continuous entertainment, center lawn and auditorium.

3:30 p.m. — Parade of native costumes, center lawn.

4:30 p.m. — Tug of war between nations, outdoor track south of school.

4:30 to 7 p.m. — Scandinavian dinner by the men and women of the Moose Lodge with swedish meatballs or beef stroganoff, carrot and raisin salad, peas, rolls, apple crisp and beverage, cafeteria, \$6 adults, \$3 children, under 5 no charge. Entertainment furnished by Coren Bergholm.

7-8:30 p.m. — Learn-to-dance sessions in gymnasium by Judy Rust.

7 p.m. — "I Remember Mama," by the North Coast Readers Theatre, directed by Edna Packard.

8:15 p.m. — Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band

9 p.m.-1 a.m. — Dance, music by Kaare Nielsen Trio, gymnasium.

SUNDAY

8:30-11:30 a.m. — Scandinavian brunch prepared by the Astoria Rotary Club and including pannukakku, Danish ham, fresh fruit, and beverage, \$4 adults, \$2.75 children, under 5 no charge, cafeteria.

10 a.m. — Food, handcraft and demonstration booths open.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. — Travel films about Scandinavia shown in school band room.

11 a.m. — Traditional Scandinavian church service, auditorium.

12:15 p.m. — Flags of nations raised, national anthems, invocation.

12:30 p.m. — Long dance around Midsummer Pole, Center Lawn.

1 p.m. — Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band, auditorium.

2 p.m. — "I Remember Mama," by the North Coast Readers Theatre, directed by Edna Packard.

1 to 4 p.m. — Continuous entertainment, center lawn and auditorium.

4 p.m. — Closing ceremony, presentation of tug of war trophy, drawing for raffle prizes, singing of national anthems in auditorium.

Where it's happening

Astoria High School

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Beer Garden

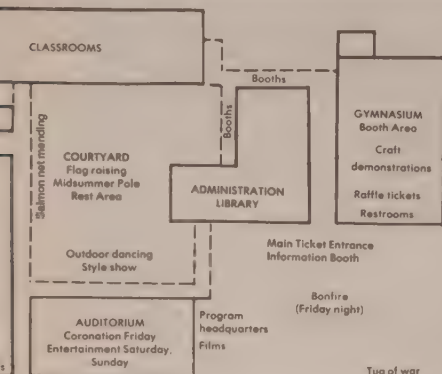
CAFETERIA
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and special events.

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A variety of dance groups from around the Northwest adds diversity and



A food lover's paradise

Lovers of good, hearty food will have a field day at this year's festival.

A breakfast on Saturday from 7 to 10:30 a.m. will include sour cream omelet, applesauce, bran muffins and a beverage. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2.75 for children aged 6 to 12. Children under 5 may eat at no charge.

The traditional Swedish pea soup and rye bread luncheon will be served in the Astoria High School cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday for \$2. Both meals will be served by the Order of Vasa.

On Saturday evening a Scandinavian dinner served by the men and women of the Moose Lodge will be held from 4:30 to 7. The menu will include traditional Swedish meatballs or beef stroganoff over noodles, carrot and raisin salad, peas, rolls, apple crisp with cream and a beverage. Adults may indulge themselves for \$6 and children 6 to 12 years old for \$3. Again, children under 5 may eat at no charge. Entertainment during the meal will be provided by Coreen Bergholm.

A Sunday brunch sponsored by the Astoria Rotary Club will feature pannukakku (a traditional Finnish pancake) served with Danish ham, fresh fruit and a beverage. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2.75 for children 6 to 12. Children under 12 may eat for free. The brunch will be served between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Entertainment to delight audiences



color to festival fun.

Here is a list of musical entertainment scheduled for this weekend's Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. All activities are at Astoria High School, 1001 W. Marine Drive.

FRIDAY

8 p.m. to midnight — Playing in the beer garden tent in the parking lot next to the cafeteria will be Richard Svensson and Bjørn Jacobsen, an accordion duo from Seattle until 10 p.m. when Coreen Bergholm, Sven Sundstrom and Jørgen Madsen take over until midnight.

9 p.m. to midnight — Queen's Ball with music by Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band.

SATURDAY

1 p.m. — Paul Smith, accordionist, Vancouver, Wash., in the beer garden; Nordic Dancers, Astoria, center lawn area; musical jam session, auditorium.

1:20 p.m. — Viking Dancers, Astoria, center lawn area.

1:40 p.m. — Scandia Dancers, Astoria, center lawn area.

2 p.m. — Nordic's of Norske Runddansere, Portland/Hillsboro, center lawn area; Naselle Choir, Naselle, Wash., auditorium.

2:20 p.m. — Leikarringen Dancers, Portland/Milwaukie, center lawn area.

2:40 p.m. — Vasa Youth Group Dancers, Portland, center lawn area.

2:45 p.m. — Nyysalan Kantelet, Naselle, Wash., auditorium.

3 p.m. — Sylvia and Lyle, beer garden; Tanhuajut, Seattle, Wash., center lawn area.

3:10 p.m. — Cassie Conolly, Albany, Ore.,

auditorium.

3:30 p.m. — Parade of Costumes, center lawn area; Nordic's of Norske Runddansers, Portland, auditorium.

3:50 p.m. — Vasa Youth Group Dancers, Portland, auditorium.

4 p.m. — Cassie Conolly, Albany, Ore., center lawn area.

4:10 p.m. — Nordic, Viking and Scandia Dancers, Astoria, auditorium.

4:50 p.m. — Leikarringen Dancers, Portland/Milwaukie, auditorium.

5:10 p.m. — Tanhuajut, Seattle, auditorium.

7 p.m. - 9 p.m. — Evening Program featuring "I Remember Mama" by the North Coast Readers Theatre and Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band, Seattle.

SUNDAY

1 p.m. — Tanhuajut, Seattle, Wash., center lawn area; Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band, Seattle, auditorium.

1:20 p.m. — Leikarringen Dancers, Portland/Milwaukie, Ore., center lawn area.

1:40 p.m. — Scandia Dancers, Astoria, center lawn area.

1:45 p.m. — "I Remember Mama," North Coast Readers Theatre, auditorium.

2 p.m. — Nordic Dancers, Astoria, center lawn area.

2:20 p.m. — Viking Dancers, Astoria, center lawn area.

2:40 p.m. — Nyysalan Kantelet, Naselle, Wash., center lawn area.

3:15 p.m. — Nordic, Viking and Scandia Dancers, Astoria, auditorium.

4 p.m. — Closing Ceremony, auditorium.

Astorian went on trip of lifetime

Winning ticket sent pair on odyssey of foreign discovery

By MEGAN MONSON
Of The Daily Astorian

Gail Wahlstrom found a note pinned to her door last year when she returned from a long day at the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

"Good news," it said.

That good news sent Wahlstrom and her sister on the trip of a lifetime. She had won the top prize in the annual drawing sponsored by the festival association — two free round-trip tickets to Scandinavia.

For Wahlstrom, it was a dream come true.

"It was a lifelong dream," she said. "I never in a million years thought I'd get to go. I really appreciate the trip. Now I must go back."

Wahlstrom, an Astoria resident, is a regular behind a booth at the festival. She paints Scandinavian designs on different items for visitors who frequent the Scandinavian dancers' booth. She moved to Astoria in 1968 from Minnesota, where her grandfather immigrated from Mora, Sweden.

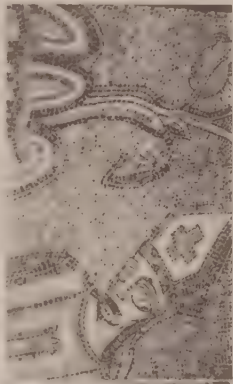
HER SISTER AND travel partner, Linda Bystrom, still lives in Minnesota.

The pair saw Sweden, Finland and Denmark during their two-week trip last September. They took a steamer across the Baltic Sea ("That sounds so romantic, doesn't it?," Wahlstrom said with a sigh), and used Eurail train passes to travel by land.

Most of the time they spent in Sweden.

"I could have spent the full two weeks in Stockholm," Wahlstrom said. The sisters visited the birthplace of their grandfather. "We didn't find much of anything," Wahlstrom said, "but I just felt that being there was great. It was a wonderful time."

"The thing incredible to my sister and me was that we were walking on streets 500 years old."



Intricate mosaics, made of millions of tiny tiles, decorated the cathedral in Stockholm, dated 1489.

The two women were far from seasoned travelers. "We kind of blundered along," Wahlstrom said with a laugh. "I don't think either of us had been more than 100 miles away."

When she got tired of the Swedish food and homesick for a little bit of America, Wahlstrom visited the Hard Rock Cafe in Stockholm for a hamburger. "Even that wasn't the same," she remembered.

THE PHOTOS WAHLSTROM took are neatly collected and labeled in several albums, as are menus, boarding passes, and ticket stubs. She also kept a daily journal, promising herself she wouldn't read it for a year. But visiting the lands of her

Continued on Page 13



The Daily Astorian—MEGAN MONSON

Gail Wahlstrom enjoys reliving her trip to Scandinavia that was made possible when she won two air tickets during the 1989 festival.


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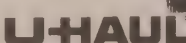

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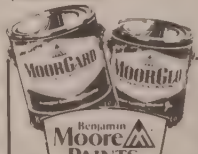
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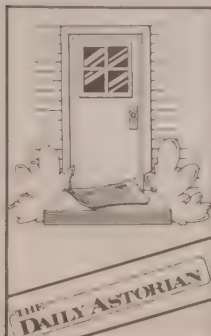
Trip

Continued from Page 12

ancestors wasn't the only attraction of the trip. "The most wonderful part was spending time with my sister," Wahlstrom said. "We laughed . . . I never laughed so much in my life. We were just like little girls — gosh, look at that, gosh, look at that. It just makes me really want to go back, just talking about it."

Wahlstrom is determined to return, this time with her husband, Dave.

But meanwhile, she has her photo albums and her memories. "The trip," she said reflectively, "was like a gift from God."



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Adventure just a ticket away

The big prize at this year's Scandinavian Midsummer Festival will be two round-trip tickets to Scandinavia donated by Finnair (or \$1,000 cash from the Scandinavian Festival Association).

The lucky winner will leave from Los Angeles; travel arrangements were made through Sundial Travel.

Other items that will be drawn for include: a Finnish blanket from the Finnish Brotherhood; a Norwegian sweater from Lindco (Karin and Darrell Lind of Seattle); a Scandinavian table runner from Nordik Butik (Ella Simonsen); a Swedish crystal bowl from the Order of Vasa; a Scandinavian maypole centerpiece from Finn Ware (Darlene Bjornsgard and Dorothy Smith); an Icelandic scarf, hat and mittens from Deena Bublitz; a Danish Christmas plate from Aagesen's Imports (Robert

and Laurie Aagesen, Cannon Beach); a gift certificate from Hauke's Sentry Market; a fish pack from Josephson's Smokehouse; handmade Christmas ornaments from the Viking-Nordic Dancers; a Swedish wall hanging from Desiree of Sweden (Desiree and Larry Orndal, Redmond, Wash.); and a Scandinavian wall hanging from Little Denmark (Ellen Madsen).

The Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association donated the following items: A Viking ship tapestry, Danish iron chandelier, Finnish crystal bowl and crystal Viking horn.

Drawings will be held on Sunday, June 24, and winners will not need to be present at the drawing to win. Tickets are 50 cents, five for \$2 or a book for \$6.

Tickets will be available at the festival.

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I Remember Mama

A delightful turn-of-the-century Norwegian family comes to life on the Astoria High School auditorium stage when North Coast Readers' Theatre presents John van Druen's "I Remember Mama." Performances are scheduled for Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. during the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. Admission is free for festivalgoers and no tickets are required.

The play is especially appropriate for the festival because many of those attending are likely to be familiar with the particular joys and problems of families who, like the characters portrayed in "I Remember Mama," immigrate to the United States from Scandinavia. According to Edna Packard, founder of the North Coast Readers' Theatre, van Druen "caught the flavor of their ethnic lifestyle, their honesty, humor and hardworking tendencies."

This heartwarming study of a large family adapting to life in a new land is set in San Francisco, but it could just as well take place in Astoria. Humorous situations and occasional tragic moments arise from everyday incidents in

the lives of these simple, honest folks as Mama brings up her children with help from her husband, sisters and Uncle Chris.

Edna Packard plays the title role made famous by Peggy Wood in the '50s television series based on the novel "Mama's Bank Account," from which the play is adapted. Packard is also the producer of this play, which is directed by Gay Preston. Other cast members include Russell Albom as Papa, Kristen Merrill as Katrin, Tory Sage as Dagmar, Donna Wright as Aunt Sigrid, Susi Brown as Aunt Trina, Nancy Turpen as Aunt Jenny and Michael Goelli as Uncle Chris.

North Coast Readers' Theatre, now in its ninth season, has many successful productions to its credit, including "On Golden Pond," "Trip to Bountiful" and "Whales of August."

Packard was associated with Portland Civic Theatre for many years and was active in establishing the first resident readers' theater in the Northwest in the 1930s. Gay Preston has bachelor's and master's degrees in fine arts and is a talented costume designer as well as a director.



The Daily Astorian—KENT KERR

Kristin Merrill, left, Russ Albom and Edna Packard star in "I Remember Mama," based on the 1950s book "Mama's Bank Account."

Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band

Sylvia and the Fjordsong Band, a variety dance and polka band whose repertoire includes country, old-time standards, Latin music and polkas and waltzes, will play a return engagement this year at the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

Sylvia Storaasli is the leader of the Puyallup, Wash., group, playing the electronic accordion. Joining her on stage are her brother, Paul Johnson, a drummer and singer, and Carl Nyberg on fiddle, guitar and banjo. Nyberg also sings and harmonizes with Sylvia on several numbers. A new member of the group this year is Lyle Schaefer, a well-known Northwest accordionist who has recorded an album of his music, "Gentlemen Do Play Accordion."

The band is well-known in the Puget Sound area and have played for many Scandinavian lodges, fraternal

See Sylvia, Next Page



Sylvia and her band make a repeat visit this year.

Sylvia

Continued from Page 14

organizations and Sons of Norway and Sangerfest conventions. The group has traveled to Alaska for the Little Norway Festival in Petersburg and appeared at the Shriners convention in Victoria, British Columbia, as well as polkafeasts in McGregor, Minn., and Washington state.

The Fjordsong Band has recorded three cassette tapes: "Scandahoovian, Third Generation," "Live at White Center Eagles" and "A Musical Tour of Scandinavia," recorded live at last

year's Astoria festival.

The band caters to festivalgoers by playing traditional favorites as well as updating new tunes with a Scandinavian twist, such as "Lord, It's Hard to Be Humble When You're Scandahoovian."

Storaasli, who holds a master's degree in music from Pacific Lutheran University, is no stranger to performing. She learned the bulk of her accordion playing talents from her Swedish-Finnish father and at the age of 13 began playing at lodges and Grange halls in her hometown of

Mount Vernon, Wash.

"It's something I grew up with," she says. "I feel it's part of my heritage."

In addition to devoting her time to the band, Storaasli teaches second grade at Wildwood Elementary School in Puyallup where she gives the children a taste of Scandinavian folk dancing in addition to their regular studies. Before that she taught music to grade school children for 11 years.

Eventually, she hopes to publish a

book of Scandinavian songs for children "to keep the heritage alive."

For now Storaasli plays the music she loves with the instrument she loves. She remains the informal advocate of the accordion and its practicality. "My accordion I've used all my life — I couldn't drag a piano along."

The band is scheduled to play for the Queen's Ball beginning at 9 p.m. on Friday. Other performances are scheduled for Saturday at 8:15 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

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Half a lifetime ago, Josie Hemeon was a 9-year-old junior princess on the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival court. That girl admired and looked up to the senior Scandinavian princesses, little dreaming that one day she would reign as Miss Scandinavia 1989. But that's exactly what happened to beautiful, dark-haired Miss Iceland, queen of last year's Scandinavian Midsummer Festival court.

Hemeon's royal adventure has been a real learning experience for her. First it was necessary to trace her father's family tree back to its roots on the island of Hemayji on the southern tip of Iceland. Research at Astoria Public Library and conversations with relatives back East acquainted her with the Icelandic heritage that she now treasures more highly than ever before.

Her experience as Miss Iceland and later as Miss Scandinavia has helped Hemeon in

valuable ways. She says she has more self-confidence now and feels at ease meeting new people and speaking in front of large groups. As queen she has made new friends and has become more involved in the community.

An outstanding student, Hemeon graduated earlier this month from Astoria High School where she participated in many school activities. During her senior year she worked in the special needs classroom helping mentally handicapped teen-agers. That experience, she said, has given her life new direction. Hemeon will major in special education when she attends Western Oregon State College this fall so that she can continue the work that gives her the satisfaction of helping others.

Hemeon wishes good luck to all of the 1990 Scandinavian princesses. Says Hemeon, "Every one of them would make an excellent queen. All represented their countries with great style."



Josie Hemeon
Miss Scandinavia 1989

The New York Times
Crossword

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Church service has ethnic flair

Pastor Patrick Dickson, from Messiah Lutheran Church in Portland, will deliver the sermon during this year's Scandinavian church service at the festival. The service will begin at 11 a.m. in the Astoria High School auditorium.

Carol Abraham will play a prelude on the organ to begin the service and Jorgen Madsen will sing the opening hymn, "A Mighty

Fortress Is Our God," in Danish.

Larry Barrows, a member of Astoria First Lutheran Church, will give the invocation followed by the reading of Psalm 96 in Norwegian led by Berit Madsen.

The lesson, from Hosea 5:15-6:6 will be read by Doreen Simonsen in Danish.

Laurie Drage, of First Lutheran Church, will provide a musical

interlude followed by the reading of the second lesson in Icelandic by Jona Muceus. Muceus will take her reading from Romans 4:18-25.

The congregation will join in singing "Rock of Ages" in English followed by Carl Salo reading the gospel lesson in Finnish: from Matthew 9:9-13.

Doreen Simonsen will lead the singing of "How Great Thou Art"

in Swedish before Pastor Dickson's sermon.

After music by Laurie Drage, the benediction and Lord's Prayer will be led by Pastor T. E. Johnstone, chaplain at Columbia Memorial Hospital and an ordained Lutheran minister for more than 50 years.

The service will conclude with the singing of the prayer portion of "Finlandia."

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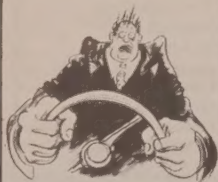
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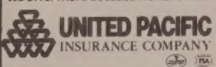
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Chaperones guide two courts

Two courts are in session, neither holding judicial weight, but bringing more than a little royalty to Astoria. The Scandinavian princesses and their junior counterparts are ready to add an extra touch of pageantry to the festival and their chaperones are ready to help them.

Here are a few words from the chaperones.

Senior court chaperone

My name is Deena Bublitz. I'm married to Leo Bublitz, we have two boys, Brien, age 11, and Chad, age 9. We live in Warrenton next door to Leo's parents.

I work in the home and am active in Cub Scouts. I enjoy many hobbies and my friends.

I would like to thank the princess committee for asking me to be the senior court chaperone this year. The girls are all wonderful young ladies. I shall treasure the experience the rest of my life.

I am wearing a regional costume from Iceland. It consists of a black skirt, woven apron, white blouse and a hand crocheted shawl of Icelandic wool. I am not Icelandic but have traveled there many times on business.

I hope everyone will join us this year at the midsummer festival in a joyful celebration of heritage.



Deena Bublitz
Senior court chaperone

Junior court chaperone

I'm Tara Johnson and I have really enjoyed being this year's junior court chaperone. I am a registered nurse at



Tara Johnson
Junior court chaperone

Columbia Memorial Hospital and my husband, Bob, is a firefighter with the Astoria Fire Department.

The costume I wear is called a

Tronderbunad. It originates in the Norwegian district of Trondelag. This area is where my maternal great-grandparents immigrated to the United States from.

Ever since I can remember, my family has been involved with the Scandinavian Festival. My father is a past festival chairman and my mother is a former junior court chaperone. I have been involved with the festival before as Junior Miss Norway in 1973 and Miss Norway in 1985.

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And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

Oh, say does that star spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Denmark

Der er et yndigt land, det staar ned brede bøge,

Nær salten østerstrand, nær salten

østerstrand.

Det Bugter sig i bakke dal, det hedder gamle Danmark.

Og det er Frejas sal, og det er Frejas sal.

Finland

Oi Maamme, Suomi, Synnyinmaa!
Soi sana kultainen.

Ei laaksoa, ei kukkula, ei vettä rantaa rakkaampaa

Kuin Kotima taa pohjoinen, maa kallis isien.

Iceland

O, Guth vors lands, o lands vors guth!
Ver lofum þitt heilaga, heilaga nafn.

Ur solkerfum himnanna hoyta ther krans
Thinir berskarar timanna safn.

Fyrir ther er einn dagur sem thusund ar
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Eitt eilíffhar smablom með titrandi tar,
Sem tilbíthar guth sinn og deyr.

Norway

Ja, vi elsker dette landet, som det stiger frem,
Furet, verbtid over landet med de tusen hjem.

Elsker, elsker det og tenker, på vor far og mor,

Og den saganatt, som senker, drommer på vor jord,

Og den saganatt, som senker, drommer på vor jord.

Sweden

Du gamla, du fria, du Fjellhoga Nord,
Du tysta, du gladjerika skona!

Jag halsar dig vanaste land uppa jord,

Din sol, din himmel, dina angder grona,

Din sol, din himmel, dina angder grona.

HAUKE'S Salutes the Scandinavian



1990

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

The Midsummer festival is a Scandinavian custom to celebrate the coming of summer after the long winter months.

Here in Astoria, we like to keep alive our Scandinavian heritage which is so much a part of Astoria's history.



Our congratulations to this year's Midsummer Festival Princesses...

Miss Denmark Kristin Jacobsen,

Miss Finland Kimberly Utti,

Miss Iceland Tiffany Patterson,

Miss Norway Patricia Brugh,

WELCOME VISITORS AND
ENJOY THE FESTIVAL



Hauke's SENTRY
MARKETS



Bayside SENTRY
MARKETS

Our 100th Year Anniversary Celebration!

Hauke's Markets are proud of our 100 years as a family business. We are thankful for the success we have achieved through these years. More importantly, we appreciate the continued support of our friends and customers in the community who have made the years and success possible.

To show our appreciation, Hauke's Markets has planned a number of "100 Year Anniversary Events" for later this summer. Hauke's invites everyone to attend these events to help us celebrate with fun, food, prizes, celebrities and fantastic savings storewide.

100 Years

HAUKE'S

SENTRY
MARKETS

And Going Strong!



Photo by Kent Kerr - Plane provided by Astoria Flight Center, 861-1223

These Youngs Bay Junction and Warrenton Stores Salute Astoria's 1990 Scandinavian MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

We are proud to support this annual event, commemorating the Scandinavian custom of celebrating the end of winter.

Warrenton, like Astoria, is rich in Scandinavian heritage, and encourages everyone to join in the fun, friendship and events of this year's Astoria Scan-

dinavian MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL.

We also invite you to visit and shop all of our stores in Warrenton and Youngs Bay Junction. We're sure you'll enjoy the friendly atmosphere and wide variety of products and services we offer, including **Lots of FREE Parking . . . for RVs & Trailers Too!**

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PREMARQ CENTRE, WARRENTON



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